



**R. Booth Goodwin II, United States Attorney
Southern District of West Virginia**

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
February 1, 2011
<http://www.usdoj.gov/usao/wvs/>

CONTACT: Melvin Smith
800-659-8726*(304)345-2200
Melvin.Smith@usdoj.gov

TWO PLEAD GUILTY TO FEDERAL DRUG CHARGES

HUNTINGTON, W.Va. – Stanley Smith, 41, of Detroit, pleaded guilty yesterday before United States District Judge Robert C. Chambers to distribution of a quantity of cocaine base. Smith admitted his involvement in a drug trafficking ring operating in and around Detroit, Huntington and various other cities between 2002 and September 2010. Smith sold approximately .5 ounces of cocaine for \$500 on two different occasions to a confidential informant working for the Huntington Violent Crimes and Drug Task Force during September 2010. On or about September 30, 2010, Smith was stopped by the Huntington Police Department while en route to deliver approximately .5 ounces of cocaine base to an informant. That same day, police executed a search warrant on Smith's Huntington residence where they seized six bags of cocaine base weighing less than one ounce each and another bag containing approximately five grams of cocaine base, among other items. Smith faces up to 20 years in prison and a \$1 million fine. A sentencing date has not been scheduled thus far.

This case is being brought as part of the Drug Market Intervention (DMI) initiative. U.S. Attorney Booth Goodwin stated, "My office will continue to work closely with all of the partners who have committed to this very important initiative. I believe that the DMI strategy has been a very worthwhile component that will help improve the quality of the Fairfield community and its significance will grow as we move ahead."

The Drug Market Intervention initiative was established in October of 2010 through a partnership between the Office of U.S. Attorney Booth Goodwin, the Huntington Police Department, along with support from the Fairfield West Improvement Council, the Fairfield Crime and Safety Committee and several state and local agencies. The initiative is primarily aimed at closing down open-air drug markets that breed crimes of violence and disorder.

In Charleston federal court yesterday, Freelin Emanuel Vance, 39, of Dingess, Mingo County, West Virginia, pleaded guilty before United States District Judge John T. Copenhaver Jr. to distribution of marijuana for remuneration. On March 18, 2010, Vance sold one-half pound of marijuana to a confidential informant working with the US 119 Drug and Violent Crime Task Force in exchange for \$800 at a Verdunville residence in Logan County. During this drug transaction, a child between five and 10 years of age was present and was filmed watching Vance weigh and measure the marijuana that was sold to the informant. Later that same month, Vance also admitted to selling approximately one-fourth pound of marijuana for \$450 to an informant at the same Verdunville residence known for other illicit drug activity.

Vance is scheduled to be sentenced on May 4, 2011 and faces up to 5 years in prison and a \$250,000 fine.

Assistant United States Attorney William King is handling the prosecution.

For more information on the Drug Market Intervention initiative, please visit:

http://www.justice.gov/usao/wvs/press_releases/2010/oct10/102010.pdf